

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The contact screw as claimed in claim 6~~ A contact screw for conductive cores of a shielded cable comprising a shank with screw threading and a contact tip, wherein a section of the contact tip provided for penetrating cable insulation has a coating of insulating material, and an exterior surface of the coating includes threading having a pitch which is greater than a pitch of the screw threading on the shank, wherein the screw is constructed and arranged to move axially in a connecting device due to said threading on the shank, wherein the contact tip and the coating are configured to taper toward the end of the screw.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Canceled).

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The contact screw as claimed in claim 6~~ A contact screw for conductive cores of a shielded cable comprising a shank with screw threading and a contact tip, wherein a section of the contact tip provided for penetrating cable insulation has a coating of insulating

material, and an exterior surface of the coating includes  
threading having a pitch which is greater than a pitch of  
the screw threading on the shank, wherein the screw is  
constructed and arranged to move axially in a connecting  
device due to said threading on the shank, wherein the pitch  
of the threading on the exterior surface of the coating is  
at least twice the pitch of the screw threading on the  
shank.

13. (Currently Amended) The contact screw as claimed  
in claim 6 7, wherein the end of the contact tip is  
conically-shaped and the coating is positioned between the  
shank and a shoulder of said end.

14. (New) The contact screw as claimed in claim 12,  
wherein the end of the contact tip is conically-shaped and  
the coating is positioned between the shank and a shoulder  
of said end.